ELSI 2 Link

Recreational Licenses and Vehicle Registrations for Iowans
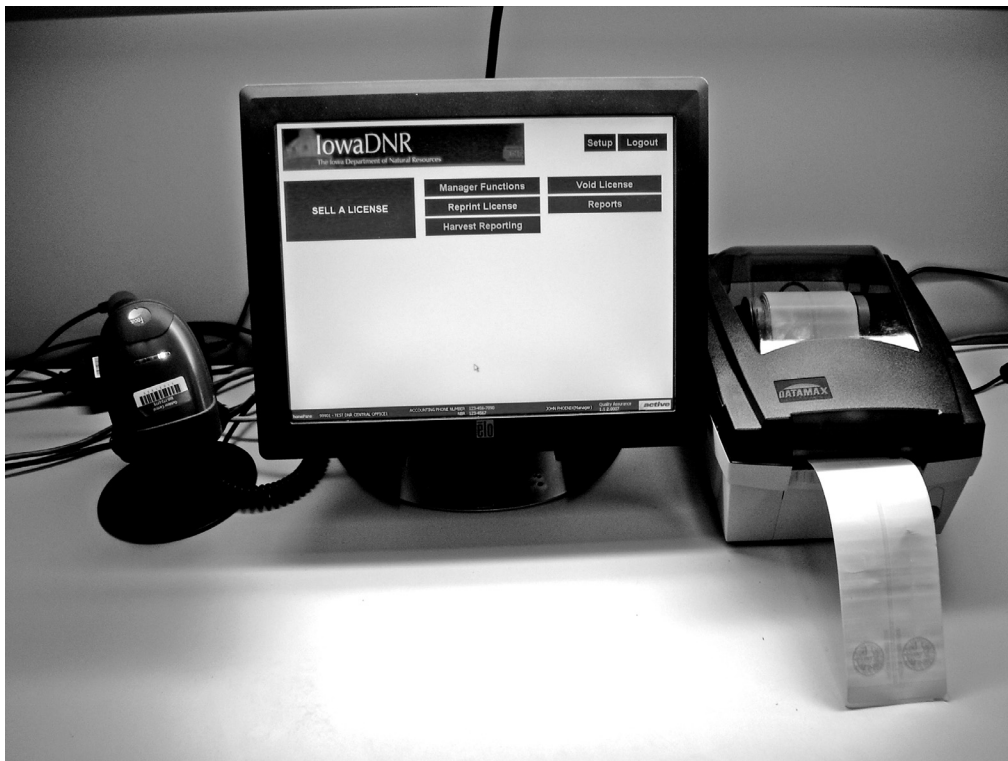
Welcome to the third edition of the **ELSI 2**Link newsletter. This publication is provided by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to inform license agents of upcoming changes to Iowa's electronic hunting and fishing license sales system. Past issues of this publication may be found online at: http://www.iowadnr.gov/license/elsi2.html.

Project at a Glance

In existence since 2001, the Department's current electronic licensing equipment (ELSI) has served its purpose well; however, the technology the system utilizes is increasingly becoming outdated and replacement parts are becoming harder to find. The department is working towards implementing a new internet-based electronic licensing system that will replace current equipment with touch screen terminals, barcode readers, and new direct thermal printers. All licenses and tags will print on the same adhesive backed paper type.

	Touch Screen	**Printer**	**Barcode Reader**	**Barcode Stand**
Height	13.3"	7"	7.2"	7.2"
Depth	9.4"	10.4"	4.9"	5.7"
Width	14.1"	8.6"	3.1"	NA
Weight	17 lbs.	4.2 lbs.	8 oz.	NA

Vendor Meeting

In late October 2008, the Department sponsored a vendor stakeholder meeting to solicit additional input on ELSI 2. Vendors Included:

- Sportsman's Warehouse, Ankeny
- Fin & Feather, Iowa City
- K&K True Value Hardware, Bettendorf
- Archery Field and Sport, Altoona
- Safari Iowa Hunting Farms, Parnell
- Carroll County Recorder
- Linn County Recorder
- Bremer County Recorder
- Muscatine County Recorder
- Monona County Recorder

During the meeting, vendors were provided with a history of ELSI accomplishments since 2001 and given a preview of improvements and changes that will take place through ELSI 2. A test touch screen terminal was available for agents to see and actually experience how transactions will take place. Demonstrations were given on using the touch screen, using the bar code reader to bring up customer information from a driver's license or a previously issued hunting/fishing license and using the instant messaging feature to send messages to and receive messages from IDNR.

Feedback on the system was generally favorable with system strong points being user friendliness and sales efficiency. Agents also reacted favorably to placing all licenses on one new, more durable, adhesive backed paper.

The Department would like to thank these valued stakeholders for their participation and feedback!

Agent Agreement

All current agents, under the existing ELSI system, have an agent agreement on file along with a $250 deposit. Prior to the release of the new ELSI 2 system, the Department will be requiring the submittal of an addendum to their agreements. However, no additional deposit will be required.

The addendums will include a provision that agents provide an Internet connection for accessing the ELSI 2 database. The Internet connection may be dial-up or high-speed. It is anticipated that a high-speed connection will provide optimal performance.

Extra Terminals

With the existing ELSI system, agents have had the option of purchasing additional Point of Sales systems for use at an individual sales location. Agents will have the same option for ELSI 2. Agents requesting additional sales machines, will need to purchase them for $2,350.00 (includes standard maintenance/support through the ELSI 2 vendor). A form for this option will be included when updated ELSI 2 agent agreements are distributed later this winter/early spring.

Internet Connection

One of the biggest changes in moving from ELSI to ELSI 2 will be the need to provide a connection to the Internet. Your Internet connection may be either a dial-up connection through a phone line or a high speed connection through a cable modem, DSL connection, satellite or through a Local Area Network (LAN). [LANs are typically used by offices and businesses that have several computers in a location that are connected to the same system and sharing resources like printers, files, etc.].

If you are connected to the Internet through a Local Area Network (LAN), it may be helpful for you to work with your IT contact to pre-collect the following information for use by your ELSI 2 terminal (often referred to as TCP/IP settings):

IP Address: _____
Subnet Mask: _____
Gateway: _____
DNS Server: _____

When you receive your ELSI 2 terminal, you will be asked to complete a series of configuration screens. If you are operating on a computer network (i.e. a LAN), you may be asked to enter these TCP/IP settings as part of the set up process.

Agent Training

The Department is currently working on a roll-out plan for training agents on the use of the ELSI 2 equipment. It is anticipated that this training will take place at regional training locations. Look for more information on training in the mail very soon.

Project Timelines

May 2009: Initiation of ELSI 2 Sales Pilot
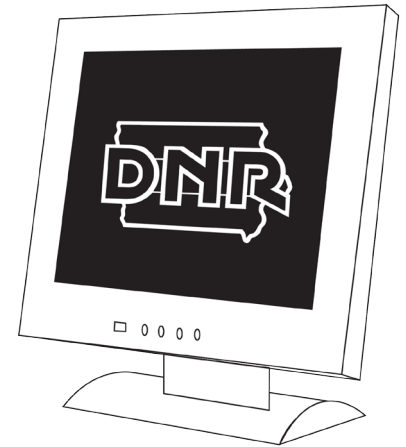**July 2009**: Statewide rollout of ELSI 2

ELSI by the Numbers: 2008 License Year

Privileges Sold: 1,484,880
Deer Harvested: 142,194 *(reported to DNR as of 2-03-09)*
Spring Turkey Harvested: 11,329
Fall Turkey Harvested: 1,075

Coming Up

In the next edition of **ELSI2**Link, we hope to share some examples of what typical screen layouts may look like for the touch screens. We will also continue to share programming developments and discuss setup and training logistics.

Questions or Comments? Call (515) 281-5918 or e-mail webmaster@dnr.iowa.gov

Wallace State Office Building | 502 E. 9th Street | Des Moines, IA | 50319